

REMARKS


Upon entry of the attached amendment, Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 19-24, 27 and 47-53 are pending in this application. The amendments to the claims do not present new matter; support may be found generally in the specification and, specifically, the claims as filed (including as-filed in the parent application).

The claims of parent application Serial No. 09/911,789 were subject to a Restriction and an Election of Species Requirement. A copy of that requirement may be found in the above-identified parent case. The amendments to the claims herein have been made in light of the Restriction Requirement in the parent case and in an effort to expedite prosecution. In addition, Applicants have corrected a number of minor informalities in the wording of the substituents in the claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 19-24, 27, 47-53 are in patentable form. Action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Eastman Chemical Company
P.O. Box 511
Kingsport, Tennessee 37662
Phone: (423) 229-1793
FAX: (423) 229-1239

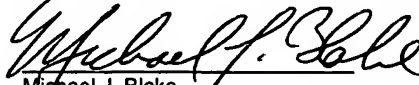

Michael J. Blake
Registration No. 37,096
Nov. 21, 2003
Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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Date of Deposit: November 21, 2003

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment and the Documents referred to as being enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Divisional Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Michael J. Blake